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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Albania

REPORT

SUBJECT Radio Propaganda Beamed to Albania

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Radio Belgrade

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1. Prior to normalization of relations between Albania and Yugoslavia, Radio Belgrade had the most effective anti-Albanian propaganda broadcasts. At the same time, Radio Tirana devoted its main propaganda effort against Yugoslavia. In recent months, Radio Belgrade has reduced the number of daily Albanian-language broadcasts from two to one. Radio Tirana has made similar reduction in its broadcasts to Yugoslavia. At present, neither radio is engaged in direct propaganda attacks.¹
2. The effectiveness of Radio Belgrade can be attributed to the following factors:
 - a. Belgrade is well acquainted with the organization and leadership of the Albanian Workers' (Communist) Party.
 - b. Propaganda attacks are directed at the leaders of the Party and not at the rank and file of Party members.
 - c. Good use has been made of White Books in exploiting the Tito-Hoxha correspondence to show Tito's good intentions toward Albania.²
 - d. Yugoslavia enjoys considerable prestige in Albania because it

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is not directly associated with either the Eastern or Western blocs. It is felt, therefore, that Yugoslavia can be more objective about current issues.

- e. Radio Belgrade does not engage in polemics with Albanian propaganda organs, but directs its attacks against specific segments of the population, especially within the Albanian Workers' (Communist) Party. (sic - see b above).
3. The following are some of the weaknesses of Radio Belgrade propaganda broadcasts:
- a. Information obtained from refugees who have a strong anti-Communist (sic) bias is generally inaccurate.
 - b. In its attempt to show a thorough acquaintance with current affairs in Albania, false and inaccurate statements have been made. This is the result of a general tendency in Communist propaganda to amass as many facts and details as possible on a question to prove a point. 25X1

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Voice of Free Albania^h

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13. Reception of the Voice of Free Albania is good but its broadcast material suffers from the same weaknesses as that used on VOA. However, the speakers on the Voice of Free Albania are more capable the language is understandable and has more appeal to the listeners. Too

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much time is wasted in engaging in polemics with the Sigurimi (Albanian Intelligence Service). The current use of five minute broadcasts in which an attempt is made to scare Sigurimi officers has no effect on the general listener except a small percentage of anti-regime elements. Such attacks on the Sigurimi would be more effective if done less frequently. Constant repetition of such attacks is not good.

Radio Moscow

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14. Radio Moscow is well equipped for propaganda activities and has the support of internal (Albanian) propaganda efforts; however, it is not widely listened to by the Albanian people.
15. Radio Moscow is ineffective for the following reasons:
 - a. News items are put on the air later than Radio Tirana. Radio Tirana makes a tape recording of the morning broadcast of Radio Moscow and puts it on the air at 3:30 p.m. Meanwhile, Radio Tirana has been broadcasting news releases from Tass and other information services. On Sundays, at 5:00 p.m., there is a direct broadcast from Moscow to Albanian listeners.
 - b. Radio Moscow offers little specific news about Albania to avoid showing its close connection with the Albanian regime. Much of its broadcast material is of a general nature and deals mostly with economic progress. These broadcasts are for the consumption of all satellite listeners and are not directed specifically to the Albanian listener.

Recommendations

16. Western broadcasters would do better to direct their efforts to current problems in Albania as reflected in Zeri i Popullit articles instead of using information which is out-dated or distorted by anti-Communist refugees.
17. The use of names of prominent Albanian escapees has an adverse effect in Albania as a result of a long-time propaganda effort by the Communist regime against these persons. These escapees are seldom mentioned (by the Communist organs?) except in connection with "enemy organizations" such as the National Committee for a Free Albania - NCFA. Moreover, most radios in Albania are in the cities and not in the rural areas where these escapees had influence.
18. The best hours for radio transmission to Albania are at 6:30 p.m. and at 9:00 p.m. during the winter season and at 10:00 p.m. during the summer season. Programs after 11:00 p.m. are worthless because the people are asleep. Summer and winter working hours are different and daily work schedules have been changed many times.
19. In Tirana, the capital of Albania, electricity is available 24 hours a day.
20. There is one radio for every five families in Tirana, a city of approximately 100,000 inhabitants. Owners must register their receiving sets and pay an annual tax. Radios are scarce in Albania.

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21. The law indirectly prohibits listening to [] broadcasts by forbidding persons to listen to programs which seek to initiate war. Listeners are afraid to discuss [] broadcasts but some discussion is carried on among close and trusted friends.

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[] Comments:

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1. [] Dushan Mugosha announced at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the League of Albanian Refugees (Prizren Committee) held on 20 October 1954, that propaganda against Albania would be discontinued.
2. The reference here may be to the White Book on Aggressive Activities by the Government of the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania towards Yugoslavia. This book was published in 1951 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal - People's Republic of Yugoslavia. []
[] Vladimir Dedijer's book on Albanian-Yugoslav relations, 1938-1949.
3. Zeri i Popullit is the official newspaper of the Albanian Workers' (Communist) Party.
4. []
5. [] Comment: The original report did not specify the change in work hours for the two seasons nor did it specify the precise change of daily work schedules.

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